

ZULIMA V. FARBER  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY  
Division of Law - 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
124 Halsey Street  
P.O. Box 45029  
Newark, New Jersey 07101

By: Debra W. Levine  
Deputy Attorney General  
Tel. No. (973) 648-4876

**FILED**

OCTOBER 25, 2006

**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS  
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

IN THE MATTER OF	:	
THE LICENSE OF:	:	Administrative Action
	:	
<b>JOHN J. RYAN, JR., PA-C</b>	:	<b>CONSENT ORDER</b>
License No. MP 00055000	:	
	:	
TO PRACTICE AS A PHYSICIAN	:	
ASSISTANT IN THE STATE OF	:	
NEW JERSEY	:	

This matter was opened before the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") by receipt of information from respondent John Ryan's supervising physician that respondent, without the doctor's knowledge or consent, signed the doctor's name to prescriptions for Vicodin and Xanax (Controlled Dangerous Substances) for respondent's own use. The pharmacist reported the unauthorized prescriptions to respondent's supervising physician and the criminal authorities. The criminal matter is pending in New Jersey Superior Court, Gloucester County.

**CERTIFIED TRUE COPY**

Respondent appeared before the Physician Assistants Advisory Committee accompanied by Louis E. Baxter, Sr., M.D., the Medical Director of the Professional Assistance Program and demonstrated enrollment in and compliance with the PAP Program and continued affiliation and employment with his supervising physician and the Emergency Room the respondent is employed by.

The Board considered the testimony of respondent and of Louis E. Baxter, M.D. of the Professional Assistance Program of New Jersey (PAP) before a Committee on June 16, 2006 and it has reviewed all relevant documentation submitted.

The parties are desirous of resolving this matter without further proceedings and the Board finds this disposition adequately protective of the health, safety and welfare.

**IT IS THEREFORE on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October , 2006,**

**ORDERED:**

Respondent's continued practice as a physician assistant in New Jersey shall be conditioned on his abiding by the following requirements:

1. Respondent shall enroll in and comply with a monitoring program under the auspices of the Professional Assistance Program of New Jersey (PAPNJ).

2. Respondent shall give written notice to the Board and provide a written copy of this Order to his employer and supervising physician, prior to beginning or changing employment.

3. Respondent shall maintain absolute abstinence from drugs, alcohol, and all psychoactive and controlled dangerous substances except pursuant to a bona fide written prescription from a treating physician, dentist, or other prescriber for a documented medical condition and with prior notification to the Executive Medical Director of the PAPNJ. In addition, respondent shall advise any and all treating physicians, dentists and/or other authorized prescribers, of his history of self-prescribing controlled dangerous substances.

4. Respondent shall cause any authorized prescriber who prescribes medication which is a controlled dangerous substance, to provide a written report to the PAPNJ together with patient records indicating the need for such medication. Such report shall indicate the duration of the prescription, indicating refills, if any, and such report shall be provided to the PAPNJ no later than seven (7) days subsequent to the prescription in order to avoid any confusion which may be caused by a confirmed positive urine or other laboratory test as a result of such medication.

5. Respondent shall continue in treatment with a Board approved psychiatrist until further Order of the Board. Respondent shall ensure that the psychiatrist submits quarterly reports to the Board through the PAPNJ in which he details the status and progress of respondent's therapy and reports immediately (within 24 hours) orally and in writing any discontinuance of respondent's treatment.

6. Respondent shall continue under the care of a primary care physician for all medical needs.

7. Respondent shall not self-prescribe any prescription legend drugs or CDS.

8. Respondent shall be responsible to ensure that the PAPNJ shall supply reports every ninety (90) days beginning on the "filed" date of this Order to the Board regarding his progress with the monitoring program.

9. Respondent shall obtain the agreement of the PAPNJ via a signature of its representative on this Order to notify the Board within twenty-four (24) hour of its receipt of information of any slip or relapse or indication of any impairment, including but not limited to any positive urine screen or failure to appear for urine monitoring or any scheduled appointment or any discontinuance of the PAPNJ rehabilitation program whether initiated by respondent or by the PAPNJ.

10. Respondent shall become familiar with all foods, food additives or other products (such as poppy seeds) which may affect the validity of urine screenings, be presumed to possess that knowledge, and shall refrain from the use of such substances. Respondent specifically agrees that ingestion of such substances shall not be an acceptable reason for a positive urine screen and/or failure to comply with the urine monitoring program.

11. Respondent shall attend monthly face-to-face meetings with the PAPNJ for the first six (6) months after the effective date of this Order. Thereafter, face-to-face meetings with the PAPNJ shall be on a schedule determined by the Executive Medical director of the PAPNJ consistent with respondent's duration in recovery.

12. All costs associated with the PAPNJ urine monitoring, mental health counseling and any monitoring associate with the program outlined above shall be the responsibility of, and paid directly by respondent.

13. Respondent hereby consents to the entry of an Order of automatic suspension of license without notice, upon the Board's receipt of information which the Board in its sole discretion deems reliable that respondent has materially failed to comply with any of the conditions set forth above, any other provision of this Order, any report of a confirmed positive urine, or a prima facie showing of a deterioration of respondent's mental condition or of a relapse or recurrence of drug abuse.

14. Respondent shall have the right to apply for removal of the automatic suspension on five (5) days' notice but in such event shall be limited to a showing that the urine test was not his or was a false positive in the case of urine testing, or that other information submitted was false.

15. This Order is effective upon its filing with the Board of Medical Examiners.

16. This Order shall not preclude the Board from taking further action based on respondent's criminal conduct.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL  
EXAMINERS

By: Sindy Paul, MD  
Sindy Paul, M.D.  
President

I have read and understood the within Order and agree to be bound by its terms. consent is hereby given to the board to enter this Order.

John J. Ryan, Jr.  
John J. Ryan, Jr., PA-C

Consented to on behalf of the Professional Assistance Program (PAPNJ)

L E Baxter  
Louis E. Baxter, M.D., F.A.S.A.M.  
Medical Director  
Professional Assistance Program of New Jersey

I have been provided with a copy of this Order.

J. Shars MD (Signature)  
Supervising Physician